

REMARKS

This application has been carefully reviewed in light of the Office Action dated April 22, 2004 (Paper No. 21). Claims 2 to 5 and 7 to 10 are in the application, of which Claims 2, 3, 5, 7, 8 and 10 are independent. Reconsideration and further examination are respectfully requested.

Claims 2 to 4 and 7 to 9 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over U.S. Patent 4,484,349 (McCubrey) in view of U.S. Patent 4,665,440 (Tromborg) and further in view of U.S. Patent 6,212,303 (Doran); and Claims 5 and 10 were rejected over McCubrey in view of Tromborg. Reconsideration and withdrawal of these rejections are respectfully requested.

The invention concerns an imaging sensor which includes a sensor array segmented into disjoint segments, a respective plurality of output pipelines with each one of the output pipelines corresponding to one of the segments of the sensor array, and duplicating means for duplicating image data for an overlap region at each boundary between segments. Thus, according to one aspect of the invention, both the output pipelines and the duplicating means are provided in the imaging sensor.

According to a further aspect of the invention, in the overlap region at each boundary between segments, multiple outputs are obtained for each pixel in the overlap region such that each of the multiple outputs is provided to individual ones of the output pipelines that border on the overlap region.

The applied art has been reviewed, but is not seen to disclose or to suggest the technical features of the present invention, and is particularly not seen to disclose or suggest either of the foregoing aspects of the invention. As Applicant sees it, none of the

McCubbrey, Tromborg or Doran patents is seen to disclose or suggest that both output pipelines and duplicating means are provided in the imaging sensor, and that in the overlap region, multiple outputs are obtained for each pixel in the overlap region such that each of the multiple outputs is provided to individual ones of the output pipelines that border on the overlap region.

Accordingly, it respectfully submitted that the present invention differs fundamentally from the references applied against the claims, and allowance is respectfully requested.

Applicant's undersigned attorney may be reached in our Costa Mesa, California office at (714) 540-8700. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below-listed address.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael K. O'Neill", written over a horizontal line.

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